

Operating Nuclear Power Plants

USNRC Presentation

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NRC Regulatory Role

- **Legislative Authority**
- **Responsibilities (Strategic Objective)**
- **Power plant safety**
- **Spent fuel storage and transportation**
- **Decommissioning**
- **License Renewal**





Power Plant Assessment

- **Reactor Oversight Process**
- **Inputs to Assessment**
- **Action Matrix**
- **Plant performance – Diablo Canyon and SONGS**





Licensing Reviews - Spent Fuel

- **Diablo Canyon**
 - **Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFSI)**
 - **Temporary storage rack request**
- **SONGS**
 - **ISFSI under General License**
 - **Initially for Unit 1 fuel**
 - **Amendment to allow storage of fuel from Units 2 and 3**





Spent Fuel Security

- **Actions since September 11, 2001**
- **National Academies Report**
- **Plant-specific vulnerability assessments**





Selected Events – Lessons Learned

- Davis-Besse reactor vessel head degradation
- Millstone lost fuel rods
- Vermont Yankee fuel accountability
- Humboldt Bay lost fuel rod segments





License Renewal Issues

- Many aging effects are dealt with adequately during the initial license period
- Environmental impacts considered
- “Human” effects not considered – aging workforce, safety-conscious work environment
- Spent fuel effects not considered – based on Waste Confidence Decision of August, 1984

